

Name _____ Period _____

Assessment Preparation: Vocabulary Synonyms

Sometimes students use the same words over and over again as they write. Learning to use new words and expanding your vocabulary adds interest and variety to your writing and makes it seem more sophisticated and grown up.

Directions: In the following exercise, use one of the vocabulary words in the box to replace the italicized word in the sentence. You may need to change the word slightly to use it correctly. Then write a sentence of your own about Tim and his experiences to show that you understand the meaning of the vocabulary word.

badger	compunction	constitutes	decisive	defection
fetches	insignia	meddle	petition	prevail
scornful	subversion	turmoil	vile	whet

1. The starving colonial soldiers would have no *remorse* about taking Tim's beef.

vocabulary word

2. "I think something *important* will happen in the spring," he said.

vocabulary word

3. In a moment I saw the *emblem* on his shoulder. He was a general too.

vocabulary word

4. The fools are planning to march up to Massachusetts to *interfere*.

vocabulary word

5. "I came to pay a visit and first Tim *nagged* me about Father and now you.

vocabulary word

6. General Putnam, a dedicated patriot, did not take *desertion* from duty lightly.

vocabulary word

7. "In my house I will decide what *makes up* treason," demanded Sam's father.

vocabulary word

Name _____ Period _____

8. Oh, whenever cattle are stolen people write a *request* and complain, but it never did much good. . .

vocabulary word

9. My mother got up from the table, *brought* a plate from the rack.

vocabulary word

10. Sam got *contemptuous* when other people disagreed with him.

vocabulary word

11. The road was all a *confusion* of mud and snow marked with dozens of hoofprints.

vocabulary word

12. Angrily, Life said to Sam, "I can't bear to look at you in that *disgusting* costume."

vocabulary word

13. Then I went out into the kitchen, took the steel out of the rack and began to *sharpen* the bayonet.

vocabulary word

14. Mr. Beach thought men of common sense would *win* because nobody wanted rebellion except fools and hotheads.

vocabulary word

15. "I will not have *ruin*, I will not have treason in my house," said Life Meeker.

vocabulary word